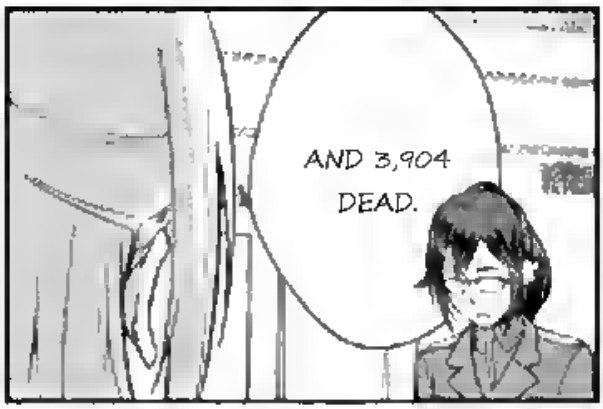
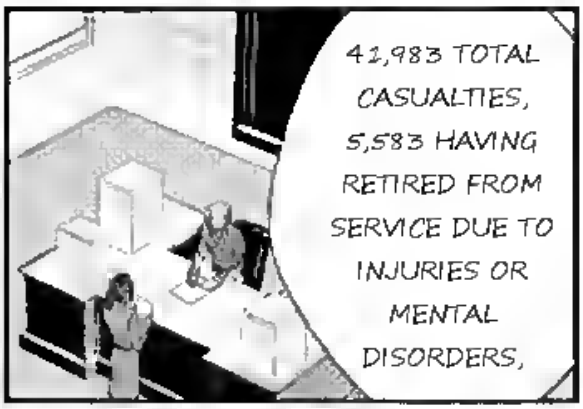
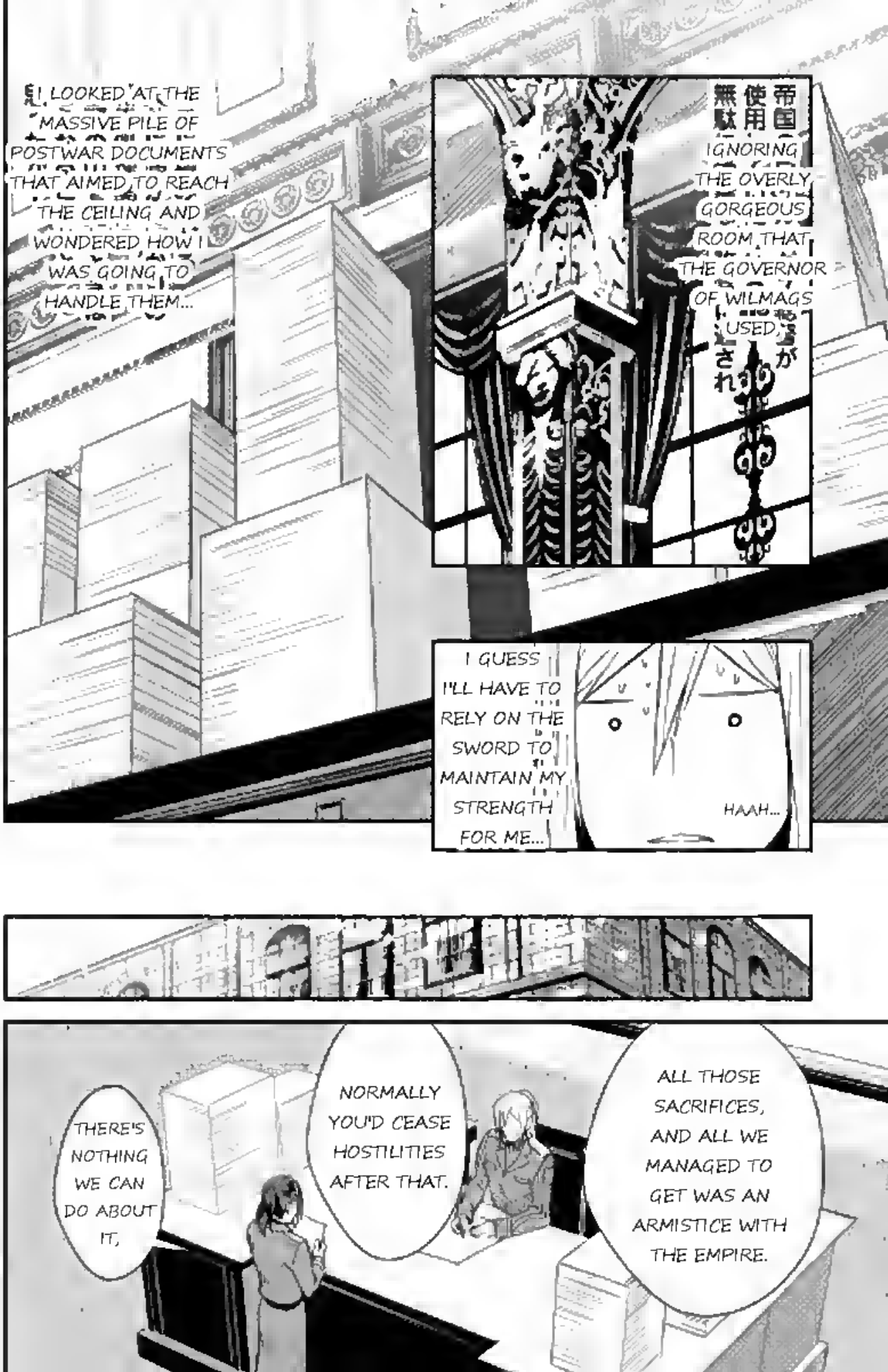
白の皇国物語 第二十四回
原作：白沢戎玄／漫画：ホーまー
A MONTH HAD PASSED SINCE THE WAR AGAINST THE EMPIRE ENDED, LECTIVAL WAS STAYING IN WILMAGS, SETTING UP FOR ITS TRANSITION UNDER THE KINGDOM'S GOVERNANCE.

I'VE BROUGHT THE REPORT ON OUR LOSSES IN THE BORDER CONFLICT.
YOUR HIGH-NESS,
WILMAGS GOVERNMENT-GENERAL


AND 3,904 DEAD.


41,983 TOTAL CASUALTIES, 5,583 HAVING RETIRED FROM SERVICE DUE TO INJURIES OR MENTAL DISORDERS,

IT'S BEEN A MONTH SINCE THEN...
THANKS FOR THE REPORT.


I LOOKED AT THE MASSIVE PILE OF POSTWAR DOCUMENTS THAT AIMED TO REACH THE CEILING AND WONDERED HOW I WAS GOING TO HANDLE THEM...
帝国使用無駄が
IGNORING THE OVERLY GORGEOUS ROOM THAT THE GOVERNOR OF WILMAGS USED,
I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO RELY ON THE SWORD TO MAINTAIN MY STRENGTH FOR ME...
HAAH...
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT,
NORMALLY YOU'D CEASE HOSTILITIES AFTER THAT.
ALL THOSE SACRIFICES, AND ALL WE MANAGED TO GET WAS AN ARMISTICE WITH THE EMPIRE.

EVER SINCE IT WAS FOUNDED--NO, EVER SINCE THE OLD EMPIRE COLLAPSED, WE HAD DEALT WITH INVASIONS FROM THE NORTH.
THE EMPIRE FOLLOWS A PRINCIPLE OF EXPANDING.
THE EMPIRE'S ARMY CURRENTLY ACCOUNTS FOR 1/3 OF THE ENTIRE CONTINENTIS STRENGTH,
SO THEIR MENTALITY IS UNLIKELY TO CHANGE ANYTIME SOON.
THE EMPIRE WOULD GROW EVERY TIME NEW MAPS WERE MADE.
UNLIKE OUR COUNTRY, WHICH HAS BARELY GROWN SINCE IT WAS FOUNDED,

IN ORDER TO MAKE BETTER USE OF PARATEON AS AN ABSOLUTE DEFENSIVE LINE, WE NEED TO TURN THE LAND NORTH OF IT INTO A DEFENSIVE AREA.
THIS LAND WILL BECOME THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR COUNTRY'S DEFENSE.

WELL, WE CAN JUST LEAVE A SPECIALIST TO HANDLE THEM.
YES.

NOW,
HOW'S PUBLIC ORDER IN TOWN?

彼ら独特のいずれが勝者総取りの精神は身を滅ぼすことになるだろう。
THEIR WINNER-TAKE-ALL MENTALITY WILL PROBABLY END UP DESTROYING THEM ONE DAY.
GROW TOO MUCH AND YOU'LL EXPLODE... SO WHAT WILL WE DO NOW?

THERE'S BEEN LESS CRIMES AROUND HERE LATELY,

THOUGH THERE IS A TROUBLING LACK OF DOCTORS HERE.
AND THE CITY IN GENERAL HAS MOSTLY RETURNED TO NORMAL,

SPEAK-ING OF SHORT-AGES,
AND MOST OF THEM FLED TOWN AFTER THE BATTLE.
IT SEEMS THAT THE MORE PRESTIGIOUS JOBS WERE RESERVED FOR PROPER IMPERIAL CITIZENS,

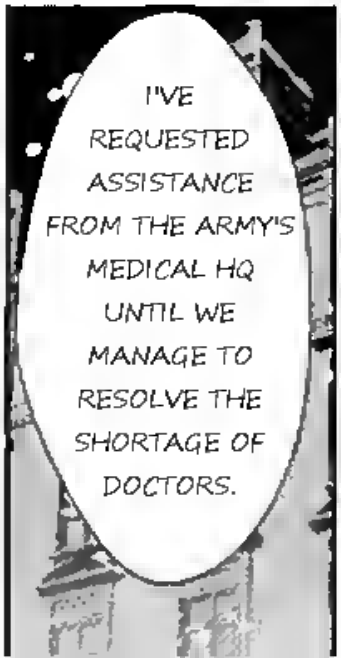
I FEEL THERE'S ALSO A LACK OF OFFICIALS FOR HANDLING THE MORE DIFFICULT DUTIES HERE.
WOULD YOU MIND HELPING OUT, RIEDE?
NOT AT ALL,
I EVEN HAVE PERMISSION FROM LIEUTENANT GENERAL GALAHA.
THE MILITARY SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY INVOLVEMENT IN GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS TO BEGIN WITH,
YES,
WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE OFFICIALS BACK HOME?
SO I NEED TO FIND A WAY OF LETTING HER RETURN TO PARATEON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THIS CONFLICT WITH THE EMPIRE HAS RESULTED IN MUCH MORE LABOR FOR THE OFFICIALS,
YOUR HIGH-NESS,
WE'RE HAVING SOME TROUBLE...
AMONG THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT AND VARIOUS NOBLES,
WHILE I WAS ABLE TO FIND SOME PEOPLE
SO I HAD ANOTHER PROPOS-AL.
I SEE...
IT'LL TAKE A WHILE FOR THEM TO REACH WILMAGS.
WE ARE QUITE FAR UP NORTH,

WHAT ABOUT TURNING WILMAGS INTO A ROYAL FIEF?
A NOBLE'S LAND IS RULED BY THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT AND THE NOBLE, AN AUTONOMOUS REGION IS RULED BY THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT AND THE AUTONOMOUS GOVERNMENT, AND A ROYAL FIEF IS MANAGED BY THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT AND ROYAL FAMILY...
IT MAKES SOME SENSE,
A ROYAL FIEF?
THE PEOPLE ARE WELL AWARE NOW THAT MIGHT MAKES RIGHT.
WHILE THE PUBLIC ORDER HAS IMPROVED HERE,
IN THAT CASE, HIS HIGHNESS WOULD BE ABLE TO GET THE BUDGET HE WANTS...

I'LL COUNT ON YOU IN THE FUTURE AS WELL, ROYAL GUARD OFFICER.
I'D LIKE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE PEOPLE'S FANGS BEFORE THEY NOTICE THEM,
AND THE FIRST THING WE'D NEED TO DO IS BREATHE SOME LIFE BACK INTO THE TOWN'S ECONOMY.
RIEDE,
UNDERSTOOD.
YES, SIR.
PLEASE SEND THIS BUDGET REQUEST TO THE GOVERNMENT.

THIS HOSPITAL WAS RESERVED PURELY FOR THE EMPIRE'S UPPER CLASS.


I'VE REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM THE ARMY'S MEDICAL HQ UNTIL WE MANAGE TO RESOLVE THE SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS.

YES IT'S POSSIBLE
CAN WE MODIFY IT TO OUR STANDARDS AND USE IT?

ALRIGHT.
YOUR HIGHN-ESS,
THE REQUEST WAS ACCEPTED BY A MEDICAL UNIT'S LEADER,
COLONEL SVAROG, WHO WILL COME TO MEET YOU TOMORROW.
IS IT REALLY ALRIGHT TO WANDER AROUND OUTSIDE AT NIGHT WHEN YOU'RE SO BUSY?
I'M TAKING A LITTLE BREAK,
ALL I'VE DONE THIS PAST MONTH IS DEAL WITH DOCUMENTS AND TAKE NAPS IN THAT OFFICE.

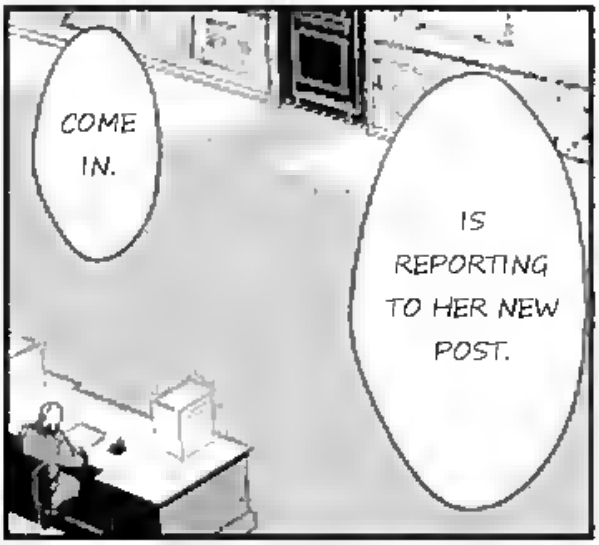
I WILL ALSO RETURN TO PARATEON TOMORROW.
AND REDUCE YOUR WORKLOAD.
THE OFFICIALS SHOULD ARRIVE TOMORROW
I SHOULD REALLY THANK HER FOR ALL THE HELP SHE'S PROVIDED ON TOP OF HER MILITARY DUTIES.
I SEE.
YOU PROVIDED ME WITH ASSISTANCE DESPITE IT NOT BEING YOUR DUTY.
RIEDE, THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP,

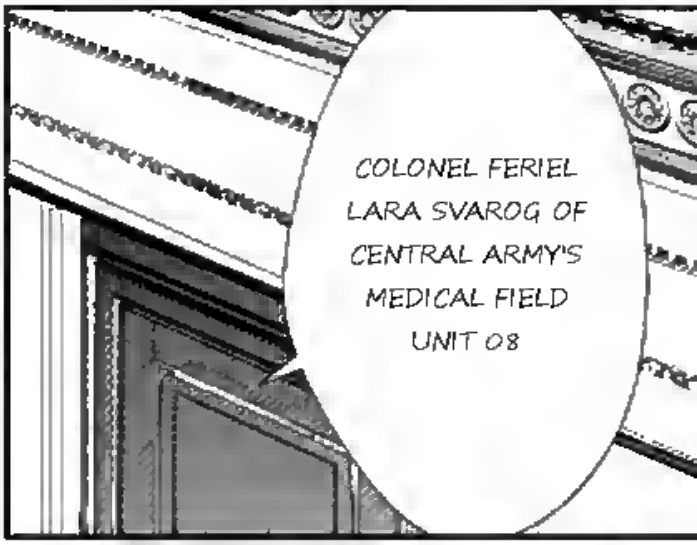
HM?
IT'S NOTH-ING.

I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU MYSELF.

YOUR HIGH-NESS...

YOUR HIGH-NESS,
RIEDE THEN RETURNED TO PARATEON AND RESUMED HER NORMAL DUTIES.


COME IN.
IS REPORTING TO HER NEW POST.


COLONEL FERIEL LARA SVAROG OF CENTRAL ARMY'S MEDICAL FIELD UNIT 08

AH!

PARDON ME.

ガラッ!!
AAH!
YOU'RE FROM BACK THEN!
MY APOLOGIES, DESPITE HAVING SEEN YOUR HIGHNESS' FACE...

SPEAKING FORMALLY IS RATHER TIRING,
SO FEEL FREE TO SPEAK LIKE YOU DID BACK THEN, COLONEL SVAROG.
THERE'S NO NEED TO TREAT ME AS A STRANGER.
FERIEL IS FINE.
... IT SEEMS YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED YET.
HUH?
DOES THE NAME SVAROG NOT REMIND YOU OF ANYONE?

AH!
MY LITTLE SISTER AND I ARE THE TWIN DAUGHTERS OF RED DRAGON DUKE FREDRICK BARG SVAROG.
?
I'LL CALL YOU LECT AS WELL.
SEEING AS OUR RELATIONSHIP WILL CERTAINLY NOT BE THAT DISTANT.
YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT

THE KINGDOM'S LAW?
EACH DRAGON DUKE IS TO OFFER AT LEAST ONE DAUGHTER TO THE KING FOR MARRIAGE.
AT THE MOMENT, I STILL DON'T KNOW IF IT'LL BE ME OR MY SISTER THOUGH...

ARE YOU AL-RIGHT?!
I-I'M FINE, I'M JUST TIRED FROM ALL THE WORK.

I HAD NO IDEA...
フラッ

HERE!

いざと
皇剣
致死
劇毒
死に
(IF NEED BE,
I CAN JUST RELY
ON THE SWORD,
I CAN SURVIVE
ANY POISON
WITH THAT...
で
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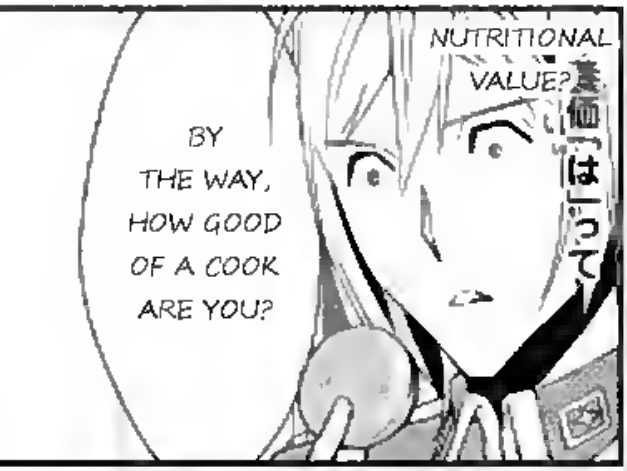
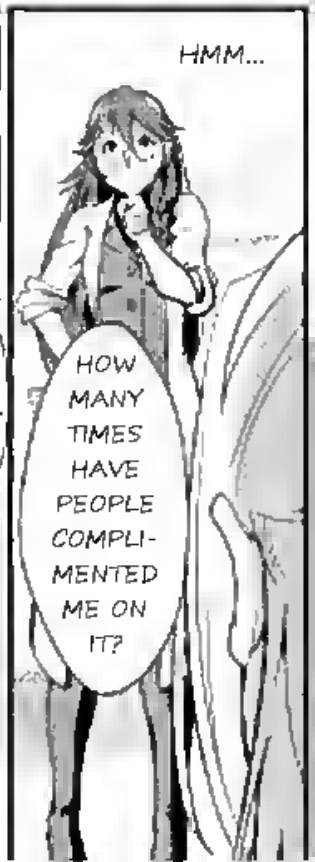
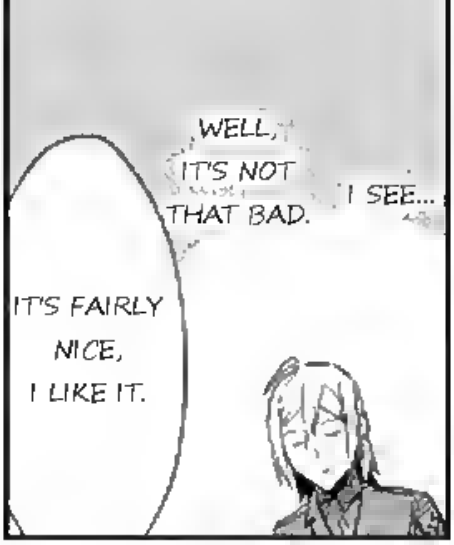

NUTRITIONAL VALUE?
「価値」は「栄養」?
BY THE WAY, HOW GOOD OF A COOK ARE YOU?

I MADE THOSE PRESENTS MYSELF.
I WANT TO INCREASE MY VALUE IN THE EYES OF MY POTENTIAL FUTURE HUSBAND.
I CAN ASSURE YOU OF THEIR NUTRI-TIONAL VALUE.

… NEVER.

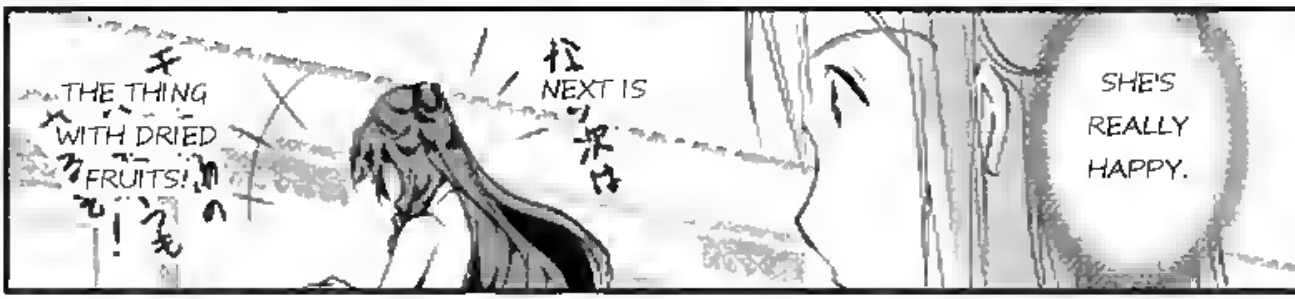

HMM…
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE PEOPLE COMPLI-MENTED ME ON IT?

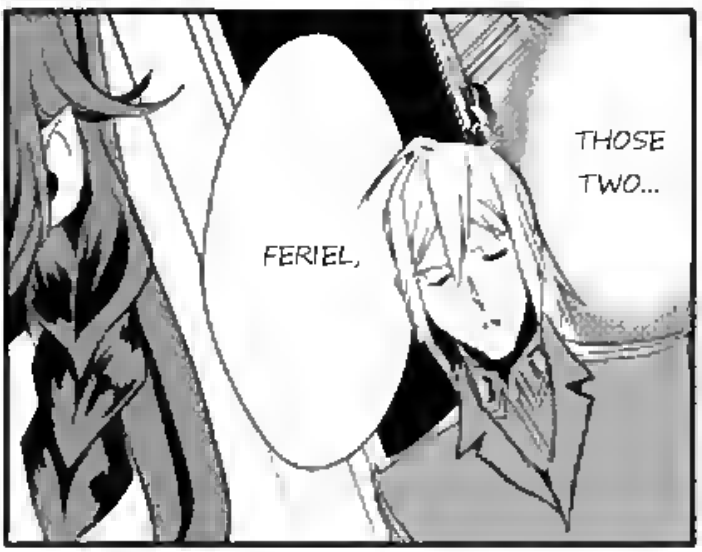
I CAN'T JUST REFUSE A WOMAN'S HOMEMADE COOKING.


WELL, IT'S NOT THAT BAD.
I SEE...
IT'S FAIRLY NICE, I LIKE IT.

MAYBE I REALLY SHOULDN'T USE LAB TOOLS FOR COOKING...

REALLY?!
THAT'S GREAT!


THE THING WITH DRIED FRUITS!
NEXT IS
SHE'S REALLY HAPPY.


FERIEL,
THOSE TWO...

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I COULD CHAT WITH SOMEONE LIKE THIS.

HOW ARE THOSE TWO?
... I'M SORRY,
YOU MEAN MERIELA AND VILIA?
I HEARD YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THEM.
I SEE...
AS A DOCTOR I HAVE A DUTY TO KEEP THAT CONFIDENTIAL.

THEY HAVEN'T REPLIED TO MY LETTERS EITHER...
UNFORTU-NATELY, I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO SEE THEM EITHER.
AND MERIELA WOULDN'T WANT HER BELOVED TO SEE HER IN THAT STATE.

NEXT IS THIS THING WITH DRIED FRUITS!

OPEN THAT MOUTH.
HUH?

ARE YOU GOING TO WASTE MY FEELINGS WHEN I'M TRYING TO FEED YOU?
UH, NO.
HM?
UNFORTU-NATE THAT I CANNOT OFFER A LADY ANYTHING BETTER.
IT'S JUST

YOUR HAND PLEASE.
AH.
WHAT...